

Thank you for your comment, Rachel Buzzetti.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is SolarM60223.

Comment Date: September 14, 2009 13:53:39PM

Solar Energy Development PEIS

Comment ID: SolarM60223

First Name: Rachel

Middle Initial:

Last Name: Buzzetti

Organization: NV State Grazing Boards Central Committee

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Attachment: Solar PEIS Comments.doc

Comment Submitted:



## NEVADA STATE GRAZING BOARDS CENTRAL COMMITTEE

September 12, 2009

Solar Energy PEIS  
Agronne National Laboratory  
9700 South Cass Avenue—EVS/900  
Argonne, Illinois 60437

*Re: Comments regarding the Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Study (Solar PEIS)*

To Whom It May Concern:

The Nevada State Grazing Boards Central Committee is a legal entity of Nevada State Government, organized under NRS Chapter 568 “Grazing and Ranging.” The Central Committee was created to provide a means whereby the seven separate Grazing Boards could act together in a matter of common interest and of general, rather than local, concern in carrying out the provisions of NRS 568.010 to 568.210. The Nevada State Grazing Boards Central Committee lends its support to the comments submitted by the N-4 State Grazing Board.

The Nevada State Grazing Boards Central Committee supports the solar energy study area approved by the Board of the Lincoln County Commissioners. The Board’s decision was based on consultation with grazing permittees and local BLM staff. The County Commission identified and recommended to the BLM areas that sought to avoid and minimize direct impacts on public land grazing allotments and related indirect impacts to private land based properties. The solar energy study area is many times larger than that approved by the Board of Lincoln County Commissioners, and if developed for solar energy will result in unacceptable adverse impacts to the range livestock industry in the state of Nevada. The ranches that will be involved in the solar development area have evolved over the years to protect and maximize the available vegetation and water resources through careful management. Development of utility scale solar projects will convert the public lands within the project areas from multiple use management to a sole use that benefits a single interest.

Public lands are an integral part of many ranching operations in the State of Nevada; therefore, the Central Committee asks that the Solar PEIS commit to no net loss of AUM’s on grazing allotments where solar facilities are developed. To accomplish this, both direct and indirect impacts must be sufficiently identified and mitigation measures developed in order to minimize the effect on public land grazing. This needs to be done in close cooperation with BLM, permittees and county government.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on this very important issue that affects not only the public lands, but also the ranchers that depend on it.

Sincerely,

**Ron Cerri**

Ron Cerri, Chairman  
Nevada State Grazing Boards Central Committee

cc: Governor Jim Gibbons  
Senator Harry Reid  
Senator John Ensign  
Congressman Dean Heller  
Congresswoman Dina Titus  
Congresswoman Shelley Berkley  
Bob Abbey, Director Bureau of Land Management  
Ron Wenker, State Director Bureau of Land Management  
Rosemary Thomas, District Manager, Ely BLM  
Victoria Barr, Manager, Caliente BLM Field Office  
Paul Mathews, Chairman Lincoln County Commissioners  
Jeff Fontaine, Nevada Association of Counties  
N-4 State Grazing Board, Jeff Gardner, Chairman  
Nevada Farm Bureau Federation  
Nevada Cattlemen's Association